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LETTER DATED 7 OCTOBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF BELGIUM, FRANCE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We have the honour to draw to your attention the text, in French and English, of two declarations on Yugoslavia adopted by the European Community and its member States at their Ministerial Meeting held at Haarzuilens, Netherlands, on 5 and 6 October 1991.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Paul NOTERDAEME
Permanent Representative of Belgium
to the United Nations

(Signed) Jean-Bernard P. H. P. MERIMEE
Permanent Representative of France
to the United Nations

(Signed) Sir David HANNAY
Permanent Representative of the United
Kingdom to the United Nations

Annex I

[Original: English and French]

Declaration on Yugoslavia

(Informal meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs,
Haarzuilens, 5 October 1991)

The Community and its member States are deeply concerned at the situation caused by the announcement of a few members of the Yugoslav collective Federal Presidency that it will henceforth take decisions on the basis solely of the votes of four members, and that it is taking over certain tasks which constitutionally are within the competence of the Federal Parliament.

They reject this seizure of the Presidency by Montenegro and Serbia, which has already been condemned by other Republics of Yugoslavia. The Community and its member States condemn this illegal action against the Constitution of Yugoslavia and the Charter of Paris. They are not prepared to acknowledge any decisions taken by a body which can no longer pretend to speak for the whole of Yugoslavia.

They urgently call upon all parties to refrain from any action that would impair the implementation in good faith of the agreement reached on 4 October at The Hague between the Representatives of Croatia, Serbia and the Yugoslav National Army under the auspices of the Presidency.

Annex II

[Original: English and French]

Declaration on Yugoslavia

(Informal meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs,
Haarzuilens, 6 October 1991)

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Community and its member States, meeting at Castle de Haar at Haarzuilens on 6 October 1991, are dismayed that heavy fighting is continuing in Yugoslavia in spite of the agreements reached at The Hague on 4 October 1991 between Presidents Tudjman and Milosevic and General Kadijevic, in the presence of the President of the Council and the Chairman of the Conference on Yugoslavia.

The violence and breaches of cease-fire agreements are committed by all parties in the conflict. Grave doubts exist as to the will of parties to settle their disputes by peaceful means. The Ministers are alarmed in particular at reports that the Yugoslav National Army, having resorted to a disproportionate and indiscriminate use of force, has shown itself to be no longer a neutral and disciplined institution.

The Ministers are determined that those responsible for the unprecedented violence in Yugoslavia, with its ever-increasing loss of life, should be held accountable under international law for their actions.

At the meeting of 4 October, it was agreed that a political solution should be sought in the perspective of recognition of the independence of those Republics wishing it, at the end of a negotiating process conducted in good faith and involving all parties.

The right to self-determination of all peoples of Yugoslavia cannot be exercised in isolation from the interests and rights of ethnic minorities within the individual Republics. These can only be assured through peaceful negotiations for which the Conference on Yugoslavia, including its Arbitration Commission, has been convened. The Ministers reiterate their determination never to recognize any changes of borders brought about by force.

In that context the Ministers recall their statement of 5 October condemning the seizure of the Federal Presidency by a few members of that body. The Ministers deplore that yet again the commitments undertaken by the major players in the Yugoslav crisis are not being honoured. They demand from all parties to implement the agreement of Friday, 4 October in all its aspects no later than by 7 October at 24.00 hours. Failing that, the Ministers will take restrictive measures to be applied against those parties continuing to flout the desire of the other Yugoslav parties as well as the international community for a successful outcome of the Conference on Yugoslavia. They will then terminate the Cooperation and Trade Agreement with Yugoslavia and only

renew it with those parties which are contributing to progress towards peace. The Ministers have asked the Political Committee and the Commission to identify immediately further measures, including in the economic field. They call on all other countries to support the position of the European Community in this respect.

The Ministers are deeply concerned at the threat to the security of the monitors of the European Community in the face of violence on an unprecedented scale. They wish to leave no doubt that the monitors of the European Community will continue to perform their duties in accordance with their mandates only as long as their security can be assured.

They invite the Secretary-General of the United Nations to speed up his report in accordance with Security Council resolution 713 (1991) and, to that effect, to consider sending a special envoy to Yugoslavia without delay.